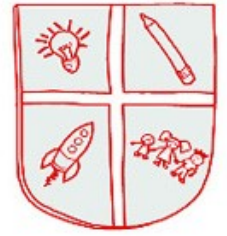




Characteristics of Effective Learning



Mr Agent Ideas



I have my own ideas.

Fantastic Focus



I join in and concentrate.

Keep It Up Captain



I keep trying.

Have A Go Hero



I will have a go.

Link and Learn Hero



I can make links.

When the adults in school are observing your child, they are assessing their learning against the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Curriculum. Part of this curriculum is known as the "Characteristics of Effective Learning" (CoEL) which focuses on how your child is learning to learn, rather than what they are learning.

Unlike other areas of the EYFS curriculum, the Characteristics of Effective Learning" are not divided in to age bands. "Learning to learn" can be observed at any age.

The Characteristics of Effective Learning are divided in to three areas.

Playing and Exploring

This aspect covers how well a child is engaged in the world around them and how involved they are in their activities. It looks at whether a child is confident to 'have a go' at new activities and try new ways of doing things. It also covers how children experience the world around them. As adults we often witness a child's perspective whilst they are acting out everyday experiences in their role play, such as playing shops.

Active Learning

This covers how motivated a child is in their play and learning. By looking at how long a child is involved in their activity and at how long they concentrate for, adults can assess how 'into' the activity a child is. Within Active Learning, adults also observe children's resilience in learning. If they try something and it doesn't work, do they try again? It also includes observing how a child feels once they have met a goal they have set for themselves. Are they proud of their achievements?

Creating and Thinking Critically

This aspects looks at how a child is developing thinking skills. This includes behaviours such as solving problems they come across, having their own ideas about how to achieve the challenges they set themselves, and testing these ideas. This includes making predictions about what will happen next and also considering how well their approach to solving their problem has worked. If they could do it again, would they do anything differently?

To help encourage the children to develop these learning behaviours we provide a wide range of engaging open ended activities and resources both inside and outside. We also observe these characteristics during other times in the school day such as changing for swimming, eating lunch, or whole school playtimes. To raise awareness and discussion around these behaviours we have our "Learning Super Heroes" display in the classroom. So you may hear your child talking about Mr Agent Ideas or being a "Keep It Up Captain."

Look out for references to the characteristics of Effective Learning on your child's observations on Tapestry.